

POCD Prioritized Survey Questions

Agriculture

1. How important are the following to you (Scale: Very.... Not at all)?

- Preservation of commercial farming
- Preservation of family farming
- Preservation of good and prime farmland soils
- A ready supply of local fruits and vegetables?
- Community Supported Agriculture

2. How satisfied are you with:

- Salem's efforts to preserve commercial farming
- Salem's efforts to preserve family farming
- Salem's efforts to preserve good and prime farmland soils
- The availability of local fruits and vegetables in Salem?
- Salem's efforts to promote/encourage Community Supported Agriculture?

Historic and Archeological Resources

1. How important are the following to you (Scale: Very.... Not at all)?

- Old houses
- Old barns
- Other buildings on the State and National Historic Register
- Ancient cemeteries/burial grounds
- Scenic roads

2. How satisfied are you with Salem's efforts to preserve:

- Old houses
- Old barns
- Other buildings on the State and National Historic Register
- Ancient cemeteries/burial grounds
- Scenic roads

Natural Resources

1. How important are the following to you:

- **Water resources:** Watercourses, Stream hydrology and morphology, Streambelts, Wetlands, Vernal pools, Aquifers, Surface water quality, Public water supplies, Lake resources, Stream/Wetlands buffers, Floodplains, floodways
- **Flora/Fauna:** Natural communities, Habitat Corridors, Wildlife corridors, Migratory corridors, Grasslands, Vegetative cover, Native flora and fauna; Federal or State rare, endangered or threatened species or State species of special concern; Large, unfragmented forest blocks; Tree canopies, Ancient trees
- **Soil/Land:** Prime agricultural soils, Geology (e.g. special rock formations such as kettle holes), Mineral resources (quarries), Topography, Unique land forms
- **Visual/Recreational:** Natural landscapes, Vistas/viewshed; Tree lines, Ridgelines, Light pollution, Open Spaces, Greenways, Preservation areas, Forestry/silvaculture

2. Regulations are adequate to protect the following (Strongly Agree... Strongly Disagree):

- **Water resources:** Watercourses, Stream hydrology and morphology, Streambelts, Wetlands, Vernal pools, Aquifers, Surface water quality, Public water supplies, Lake resources, Stream/Wetlands buffers, Floodplains, floodways
- **Flora/Fauna:** Natural communities, Habitat Corridors, Wildlife corridors, Migratory corridors, Grasslands, Vegetative cover, Native flora and fauna; Federal or State rare, endangered or threatened species or State species of special concern; Large, unfragmented forest blocks; Tree canopies, Ancient trees
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Community Character/Quality of Life (*Note: need to rationalize with Natural Resources*)

1. How important are the following to you (Scale: Very.... Not at all)?

- **Visual character:** open fields, significant woodlands, farmland and livestock, narrow winding tree-lined roads, scenic views, historic buildings and homes, stone walls, and country barns.
- **Natural character:** fresh, clean air and water, night sky (absence of light pollution), low density, preserved land and abundant flora and fauna
- **Sense of community**
- **Volunteerism** (participation in town affairs)

2. How satisfied are you with:

- Salem's efforts to preserve its **visual character:** open fields, significant woodlands, farmland and livestock, narrow winding tree-lined roads, scenic views, historic buildings and homes, stone walls, and country barns.
- Salem's efforts to preserve its **natural character:** fresh, clean air and water, night sky (absence of light pollution), low density, preserved land and abundant flora and fauna
- The **sense of community** you experience in Salem [If not, why not, and what could be done to improve it?]
- The level of **participation in town affairs** [If not, why not, and what could be done to improve it?]

Economic Development

1. Salem should have more revenue from business (Agree... Disagree)

2. Salem should actively pursue economic development (Agree... Disagree)

3. Salem should encourage the following types of business/the following types of business would be a good fit for Salem and I would frequent them (Agree... Disagree)

- Green energy manufacturer (e.g., solar panels,
- Other green businesses
- Education or Training Facilities
- Winery/Vineyards

- Other vegetables/fruit/plant farms
- Healthcare/Wellness/Yoga
- Destination specialty retail/services
- Plant and Gardening Retail
- Small to medium-sized shopping village with cafes
- No industry would be a good fit - No new businesses
- Other (Free form explanation)
- Don't know/No

4. The right balance for Salem between land use and residential property tax increase is (Strongly Agree... Strongly Disagree):

- Allow any land to be developed for new business, do whatever it takes to slow the rate at which my residential property taxes increase.
- Identify an area of town that can be used for any business (regardless of community character) as long as it will slow the rate at which my residential property taxes increase.
- Allow some new land to be developed for new business that fits Salem's character and only in a designated area (not sprawling throughout town), and only if it helps slow the rate at which my residential property taxes increase.
- Allow some new development in a designated area for businesses that fit Salem's character, only after exhausting efforts to slow the rate at which residential property taxes increase by maximizing the use of existing, developed land and buildings.
- Limit new businesses to existing, developed land and buildings, even if this is not enough to help slow the increase of residential property taxes (no new development no matter what).

3. The top three economic health goals for Salem should be to: (Strongly Agree... Strongly Disagree):

- Provide tax relief
- Reduce the need for townspeople to drive to other towns for retail and services
- Promote existing local business
- Actively recruit a large, new business (or cluster of business)
- Achieve or maintain a balance between economic health and land use

Housing

1. Affordable housing will provide tax relief (Agree... Disagree)
2. P&Z should be proactive in pursuing affordable housing (Agree... Disagree)
3. Salem's housing regulations for new homes (1,000 sq foot minimum, number of bedrooms) are too restrictive, and should be relaxed to allow for affordable housing (Agree... Disagree)

Infrastructure/Services

1. How important are the following services to you (Scale: Very.... Not at all)?
2. How would you rate the quality of these services? (Excellent.... Needs improvement)

Library

Elementary/Middle School

High School
Road conditions
Snow removal
Ambulance Services
Fire Services
Police Services
Town Hall - Facility
Town Hall - Services (Town clerk, Tax collector, Tax Assessor)
Recreation services - Pre-school
Recreation services - Pre-teens and Teens
Recreation services - Adults
Youth Services excluding Recreation
Senior Services
Health Services
Visiting Nurse

3. There are facilities, services and resources that Salem does not have. How high a priority would you give the following (Scale: High Priority.... Do not need):

Community Center
Senior Center
Communications (free wireless network)
Public transportation
Network of multi user trails
Other/please specify

Regionalism

1. Salem should explore partnering with other towns concerning the following services (Strongly Agree.... Strongly Disagree)

- elementary school education services
- middle school education services
- public work services
- police protection services
- fire protection services
- public transportation

Village Center

1 How important is it to have a Village Center in Salem? (Scale: Very.... Not at all)?

2. Salem should actively pursue developing a Village Center? (Strongly Agree.... Strongly Disagree)

3. How high a priority would you give the following attributes? (Scale: High Priority.... Do not need):

[List attributes]